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BGSU faculty work with Tunisian colleagues to expand programs in journalism and media

BGSU faculty and administrators will be heading to Tunisia in March to begin the first phase of a project designed to improve the teaching of journalism in that country and the North African region.

Titled "Capacity Building for a Democratic Press: A Sustainable Partnership to Develop Media and Journalism Curricula in Tunisia," the two-year project is a partnership between the U.S. and Tunisian governments, BGSU and the Institut de Presse et des Sciences de l'Information (Institute of Press and Information Sciences-IPSI) at the Université de la Manouba in Tunis. Also sharing resources and expertise are nearly 25 private-sector and non-governmental organizations such as Tunisian Radio Television Establishment, BBC North Africa, the Tunis Afrique Presse, several newspapers and the Association of Tunisian Women for Sustainable Development.

The program will help IPSI faculty provide training to their journalism students, while exposing faculty and students at BGSU to another culture and its perspectives on modernization and development, said Dr. Laura Lengel, interpersonal communication, with U.S. partnership co-director with Dr. Catherine Cassara, journalism.

On Feb. 11, project participants from both countries met via video conference for a "virtual handshake" to formally launch the joint project. Speaking on behalf of President Ribeau, Executive Vice President Linda Dobb told the Tunisian partners about Bowling Green's commitment to organizing for engagement. "We usually engage locally, so this is a very exciting opportunity to engage internationally," she told the group in Tunis.

Following the introductions, the group got down to the business of discussing the project in detail to prepare for the BGSU team's visit to Tunis in March. The IPSI faculty members listed a number of items they especially would like to see addressed, notably the role of journalism in democracy and enhancing the role and image of women in media.

"Democracies function best where there is free access to information and where unhindered discussions allow citizens to examine all sides of civic issues," writes Cassara. "Because journalism is one of the most important forums for civic debate, it is an essential partner in any society's transition to democracy. As Tunisia and other Arab nations move toward democracy, it is imperative that their journalists have the professional training and dedication to maintain the highest codes of conduct and practice that will make them integral components in the process of building democratic discourse and civil society."

"The project is extremely interdisciplinary, with participants from three colleges," Lengel said. Dr. Kristie Foell, director of the International Studies Program and a German department faculty member, will assess the Tunisian students' English skills. Dr. Monica Longmore, sociology, is assisting with assessment of student learning over the life of the grant. Dr. Patricia Kubow, educational foundations and inquiry, will provide insights on democratic education. Dr. Bruce Edwards, associate dean for distance education and international education in Continuing and Extended Education, will help Tunisian students and faculty with learning to use BGSU's Blackboard instructional software..

Additional BGSU faculty will participate during later phases of the project. And independent program evaluation will be provided by an Indiana University journalism professor who has been in Tunisia and is familiar with IPSI.

Working with IPSI, the BGSU participants will help to develop a new degree focus in international media and new curricula in the areas of international media, women and the media, new media, the role of media in building democratic societies, environmental reporting and journalism ethics. They will also develop a set of journalism skills and

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assessment tools to measure students' mastery of those skills, and will begin to develop innovative teaching techniques, especially for online and distance-learning coursework. BGSU will provide some of the technology needed for online learning, such as the same Blackboard program used on campus, plus develop training in its use.

Among long-term outcomes of the program will be the creation of an educational CD-ROM targeted to graduate and undergraduate students in the region, and a student handbook and instructor's guide on international media.

"The key concept is sustainability," Lengel said. "Our main goal is to make long-term contributions to help them continue to develop."

The program was made possible through a \$100,000 grant from the Department of State's Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) in cooperation with the Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Contributions worth more than twice that amount will come in the form of money, time and resources from units across the BGSU campus, including the School of Communication Studies, Interactive Distance Education for All Learners (IDEAL), WBGU-PBS, Instructional Media Services' Technology Education Consulting Specialists program and Residence Life. Most of the faculty participants' time and efforts are also provided without compensation.

MEPI was created following 9/11 to create opportunities for peaceful communication and democratic discourse through engagement on all fronts—academic, governmental, private sector and civil society.

A group of Tunisian faculty and students will come to Bowling Green July 18-Aug. 6 for a workshop that will bring the Tunisian and BGSU students together for the study of women and media in international contexts. "The goal is to get the American students and the Tunisian students to interact. We've already had a response to our notice about the workshop," Cassara said last week. The Tunisian students will also have the chance to do short internships with Toledo-area media outlets.

During the School of Communication Studies' April Communications Week, Dr. Orayb Najjar, a media and journalism expert with extensive credentials in Arab and American media and cultural interaction, will help prepare BGSU faculty and students to interact successfully with the Tunisian students. Dr. Fatma Azouz of IPSI, the Tunisia partnership director, will co-direct.

The project is timed to coordinate with the United Nations World Summit on Information Society to be held in Tunis Nov. 16-18. Lengel said considerable international media attention will be focused on the nation at that time, and the event will also provide an opportunity for the Tunisian students to use their skills in their coverage.

Lengel traveled to Tunisia in June to participate in the first preparatory meeting for the U.N. summit. Members of the BGSU team will return to Tunis in November to guest-teach courses at IPSI and help guide IPSI students' reporting on the world summit.

BGSU already has had considerable contact and collaboration with Tunisia, including hosting Tunisian Fulbright Visiting Scholar Hamadi Redissi last year. Coordinated by Lengel, Cassara, Foell and Edwards, Redissi's visit was part of Fulbright's Direct Access to the Muslim World Program.

In addition, Lengel was a 1993-94 Fulbright Scholar and American Institute of Magreb Studies Fellow in Tunisia researching international media, and received a grant to conduct field research on women and music in the Arab world. Cassara led a USAID-sponsored journalism workshop in Croatia last spring for public information officers in the region.

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Literary journal marks quarter century with two special issues

Marilyn Monroe may have bemoaned reaching the 25-year mark while portraying the character Sugar Kowalczyk in "Some Like It Hot," but the editors of Mid-American Review, the University's esteemed, nationally distributed literary journal, are celebrating their silver anniversary with two gala special issues.

Published by the English department, Mid-American Review was established in 1981 by students and faculty members in the Creative Writing Program. The magazine has grown in both size and stature over the course of its two and a half decades of publication, but its mission remains the same: to put great contemporary writing before as many readers as possible.

This year's anniversary celebration includes two special issues. The first is devoted to the review's "old-timers"—writers who have previously appeared in the pages of the magazine and who are featured as part of a homecoming of sorts. Some of these veterans include Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winners, such as Carl Dennis, Richard Russo, James Tate, and Stephen Dunn. Others are writers who were first introduced to audiences through the pages of the magazine.

For a complete change of pace, the review's editors decided to put out a second special issue, this one devoted to brand-new writers. Dubbed the Unpublished Writers Issue, the forthcoming edition features writers whose work has never appeared before a national audience.

The publication's anniversary celebration is aided by two \$10,000 grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as a grant from the Ohio Arts Council.

BGSU faculty members Michael Czyzniejewski and Karen Craigo co-edit the review. The editorial staff also consists of more than 30 students and alumni from the master of fine arts and bachelor of fine arts programs in creative writing at the University.

"We're carrying on a proud tradition," said Czyzniejewski. "It's a special pleasure to be able to showcase longtime friends of the Mid-American Review, and then to turn right around and introduce dozens of brand-new writers to literary audiences."

Craigo agreed, noting, "We're all aware that our work on the Mid-American Review carries forth the efforts begun by dedicated editors who gave countless hours to make the magazine a success."

The "veterans" edition of the Mid-American Review is available now, and the second issue will be available in March. The review can be found at the University Bookstore in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union and can be purchased online at www.bgsu.edu/midamericanreview.

Recycling competition goes national as RecycleMania returns

RecycleMania is back on campus for the third time. After taking a break last year after two winning years, the Recycling Department decided to get BGSU back into the nationwide recycling competition for 2005.

RecycleMania is a competition among colleges and universities across the United States. Faculty, staff and students all play a part in contributing to the total poundage of material recycled.

This year, 49 schools are competing for the title of RecycleMania champion. Ohio rivals include Bowling Green, Ohio, Miami, Ohio State and Youngstown State universities. Ivy League schools such as Yale and Harvard are competing as well.

BGSU competed in 2002 and 2003 and won both years. "This coverage gets us recogni-

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tion with all the other competing universities, really creating a competitive name for BGSU outside of athletics," Craig Wittig, BGSU recycling coordinator, said.

The contest started between Ohio University and Miami University, two schools with a predisposition to rivalry, according to Ed Newman, OU recycling and refuse manager.

"We needed to make a bigger impact," Newman said. "We have had success increasing recycling rates by getting more people interested. We went from a 20-25 percent [recycling] rate in dining and residence halls to more than 35 percent last year."

The 10-week contest began Jan. 30. Recycling totals will be updated weekly. Updates and contest information is available at www.recyclemaniacs.org.

This event is organized and operated by university recycling coordinators and supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WasteWise program. WasteWise is a flexible program that allows partners to design their own waste-reduction programs tailored to their needs, according to the EPA Web site.

"WasteWise provides much needed technical and logistical assistance," said Michael Scozzafava, environmental protection specialist and WasteWise team member,

"This partnership in RecycleMania is the first step in a larger WasteWise college and university campaign, intended to encourage college and university partners to be more active. Our assistance has made it possible for more schools to participate—49 this year, up from 17 last year."

"The importance of conserving our dwindling resources will only grow in time," Wittig said. "This contest illustrates that the conservation issue is much larger than between residence halls or even between campuses. It is of national and international concern. With that being said, let's prove that we can win this contest every time we compete."

The current recycling contest between residence halls, Battle of the Recyclables, will continue alongside RecycleMania, according to Wittig. Both contests will conclude on April 9.

'Quiet in the Land' portrays clash of cultures

The Department of Theatre and Film in collaboration with the University's Center for Canadian Studies will present Anne Chislett's play "Quiet in the Land." The drama will be staged at 8 p.m. Feb. 17, 18 and 19 and at 2 p.m. Feb. 19 and 20 in the Eva Marie Saint Theatre.

Tickets are \$10 for students senior citizens and other adults, and \$5 for children under 12, and can be reserved in advance by calling the box office at 2-2719. The producers note that this production contains adult themes and may not be suitable for young children.

A traditional Amish community in southern Ontario in 1917 provides the setting for the moving drama. "Quiet in the Land" tells of the many challenges of faith and lifestyle confronting these quiet people, who face a world war and a changing society. As the young people struggle to reconcile tradition with what their hearts ask of them, neighbor is turned against neighbor and father against son.

Bowling Green's production of "Quiet in the Land" is directed by Dr. Jonathon Chambers, coordinator for the theatre and film graduate program. Members of the design team are faculty members Steve Boone, scenic designer, Marcus Sherrell, lighting designer, and Margaret McCubbin, costume designer.

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reflexes and vision.

For more information on the disease, visit the National MS Society Web site (www.nationalmssociety.org) or the Northwestern Ohio chapter Web site (www.nationalmssociety.org/oho).

IN BRIEF

Ice Arena to host 'MS Awareness Weekend' events

This Friday-Sunday (Feb. 18-20) will be "MS Awareness Weekend at the BGSU Ice Arena."

The Falcon hockey team will host Western Michigan for games starting at 7:05 p.m. Friday and Saturday, then sponsor its annual "Skate with the Falcons" from 7-7:45 p.m. Sunday. Team members will serve pizza after the latter event, which costs \$5 for children wearing their hockey team jacket or jersey and \$6 for others.

All proceeds from the Sunday skate will go to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, as will donations for MS "Prism Pins" and "Bands of Hope" bracelets that will be available throughout the weekend. The society will also receive proceeds from a raffle of autographed memorabilia of former Falcon and seven-time NHL All-Star Rob Blake and current Falcon Jordan Sigalet, who announced in December that he has the disease.

"I want to encourage everyone who can to come to the Ice Arena that weekend to help be a part of finding a cure for this disease," said Sigalet, a senior goaltender who was drafted by the Boston Bruins in 2001 and is a candidate for this year's Hobey Baker Memorial Award. The award is presented annually to the nation's top collegiate hockey player.

Multiple sclerosis is an inflammatory disease of the central nervous system that can affect the brain and the spinal cord. Symptoms include numbness and other effects on muscles.

Anticipated OhioLINK funding shortfall could drastically impact research at BGSU

Through the collective purchasing action of OhioLINK, academic libraries in Ohio, including University Libraries at BGSU, have expanded buying power in electronic research and reference content. But as part of the Ohio higher education appropriation, OhioLINK expects capital funding via the upcoming 2005-06 capital bill before the General Assembly to be below the level of its previous two-year budget.

In order to combat the anticipated shortfall of more than \$500,000 to more than \$1 million, OhioLINK has cut subscriptions to 490 low-use electronic journals for 2005. To access this list of cancelled journals, visit www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/whatsnew.html.

OhioLINK funds are spent in combination with library funds to provide a wide array of resources. However, library budgets across the state also face serious budget limitations. In fiscal year 2003-04, University Libraries expended more than 30 percent of the library materials budget to support OhioLINK resources.

What would research at BGSU be like without OhioLINK?

- Faculty and students would not have rapid access to a statewide catalog of 43.5 million books and other items. Instead, they would have to travel for research materials, wait up to three weeks for interlibrary loan items or make do with the resources available at the University Libraries.

- Faculty and students would not have instantaneous, electronic access to the more than 6,000 titles and 5.45 million scholarly articles available through the OhioLINK Electronic Journal Center, as it would not exist.

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• There would be no Digital Media Center serving the state; no access to more than 19,000 e-books, no statewide online chat reference service and no statewide Electronic Theses and Dissertations Center, or fewer resources available, such as the 100-plus databases, and at greater cost.

What can you do?

• Call, write or email your state legislators and express support for OhioLINK. (See Contact With State/Federal Legislators and Governmental Agencies Policy in the Commonly Shared Employment Policies Handbook for BGSU on the Executive Vice President's Web site at www.bgsu.edu/offices/execvp/page8107.html.)

• Find out more about the Support OhioLINK funding campaign at www.ohiolink.edu/supportohiolink/.

• Support your University Libraries budget. Contact the library dean's administrative office at 2-2856 with questions or to determine how you can help.

Special ed "Space Camp" teacher to speak at BGSU

Mike Kersjes, an author and special education teacher who brought Space Camp to his classroom, will speak Wednesday (Feb. 16) at the University.

Kersjes, author of *A Smile as Big as the Moon: A Teacher, His Class and Their Unforgettable Journey*, will speak to an education seminar at 7 p.m. in 101 Olscamp Hall.

The educator taught students with learning disabilities at an inner-city school for a decade before moving to Grand Rapids, Mich., where his primary assignment was to run a self-contained classroom for students from five different high schools.

His book tells the real-life story of how a teacher suffering from "burn-out" looked for new ways to motivate his pupils and succeeded beyond his hopes. Inspired by an article on a space camp for gifted and talented students, he created an array of educational materials to help his students prepare to take part in the NASA Space Camp program. They became the first team of special education students to compete with bright and gifted students from around the world.

The lesson for educators, Kersjes says, is that exciting math and science programs can motivate and benefit all students. Not only have his students succeeded, their lives have changed because of their experiences.

Educational resources and techniques Kersjes used in his classroom are now employed by other special education teachers around the country.

Kersjes' book, which will be available at the seminar, has been described by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette as "a testament to how perseverance can get results and how children can perform surprising feats in a system that doesn't always work to help all children."

The author's visit is sponsored by the College of Education and Human Development.

Faculty, staff and students invited to State of the University address

President Ribeau will address the campus community Feb. 24 concerning the state of the University.

The annual address will begin at 10 a.m. in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom of the Bowen-Thompson Student Union. The BGSU Firelands campus can view a simulcast of the speech in 1003 Cedar Point Center.

Everyone is invited to arrive at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and fellowship preceding the talk.

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Attend forum to learn about BG@100 'go live' progress

The University community is invited to a BG@100 open forum at 2 p.m. Tuesday (Feb. 15) in 314 Bowen-Thompson Student Union. The forum offers an opportunity to learn more about the project to implement PeopleSoft administrative systems as it moves toward its July "go live" date.

CALENDAR

Monday, Feb. 14

Music at the Forefront, featuring Daniel Lippel, guitar, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Sponsored by the MidAmerican Center for Contemporary Music.

Lecture, "How to Prevent Cancer Before It Starts," with nutritionist Michael Greger, Cornell University, 8-10 p.m., 101 Olscamp Hall.

Tuesday, Feb. 15

BG@100 Forum, project update, 2 p.m., 314 Bowen-Thompson Student Union. **Forum**, "Faculty Professionalism," 2:30-4:30 p.m., 201A and B Union. Sponsored by the Faculty Senate Committee on Professional Affairs.

Provost's Lecture Series, "Freedom of Expression: Overzealous Copyright Bozos and Other Enemies of Creativity," by Kembrew McLeod, communication studies, University of Iowa, 6:30 p.m., 228 Union. Sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Culture and Society.

Women's Basketball vs. Central Michigan, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Movie, "Ladder 49," 9:30 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by University Activities Organization.

Wednesday, Feb. 16

Center for Family and Demographic Research Workshop Series, "Use Excel—It Will Make You a Better Person," 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 25 Hayes Hall.

Brown Bag Lunch, "Spirituality and Liberation for Black Women," presented by Pamela Hairston, American culture studies, noon-1 p.m., 107 Hanna Hall. In recognition of Black History Month.

Black History Month Lecture, presented by La Mesa Oblicua, 12:20-1:20 p.m., 207 Union. Sponsored by the Center for Multicultural and Academic Initiatives.

Affirmative Direction Series, "Whites in Black History: A Choice of Legacies," presented by Christina M. McVay, Kent

State University, 2-3:30 p.m., 201 Union. For additional information, contact the Office of Equity and Diversity at 2-8472. **Men's Basketball** vs. Ball State, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Thursday, Feb. 17

International Film Series, "Local Hero," 1983, United Kingdom, directed by Bill Forsyth, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, first floor, Hanna Hall.

Friday, Feb. 18

Women's Professional Development Series, "Negotiating a Faculty Contract," presented by Rebecca Ferguson, assistant vice president for human resources, 12:30-2 p.m., 107 Hanna Hall.

Movie, "Ladder 49," 7 and 9 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by UAO.

Women's Gymnastics vs. South East Missouri State and Wisconsin-Oshkosh, 7 p.m., Eppler Center.

Hockey vs. Western Michigan, 7:05 p.m., Ice Arena.

Old School After Party, 10:30 p.m.-2 a.m., 228 Union. Free with ticket from dinner theatre, otherwise \$5. Sponsored by the Center for Multicultural and Academic Initiatives, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Omega Psi Phi and Project Excellence.

Saturday, Feb. 19

Men's Basketball vs. Arkansas-Little Rock, 1 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Hockey vs. Western Michigan, 7:05 p.m., Ice Arena.

Sunday, Feb. 20

Movie, "Ladder 49," 9:30 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by UAO.

Monday, Feb. 21

Center for Family and Demographic Research Spring Speaker Series, "Gay Marriage and Gay Marriage Bans: The Social Implications for Family Well-Being,"

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presented by Laura Sanchez, sociology, noon-1 p.m., 347 Education Building. **Human Rights Film Festival**, "Long Night's Journey into Day: South Africa's Search for Truth and Reconciliation," 2000, 6-8 p.m., Union Theater. To borrow films, or for more information, call 2-7897. Sponsored by the University Libraries' Multicultural Affairs Committee and Human Values for Transformation Action.

Continuing Events

Through Feb. 16

Art Exhibition, "Student Enameling Exhibition," Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Feb. 17-20

BGSU Theatre Production, "Quiet in the Land," by Anne Chislett. Performances are at 8 p.m. Feb. 17-19 and at 2 p.m. Feb. 19 and 20, Eva Marie Saint Theatre, University Hall. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12, and are available by calling 2-2719 or at the door.

Feb. 18-19

Dinner Theatre, "80s Part 2," with guest host comedian Jay Lamont, 6-10 p.m., Lenhart Grand Ballroom, Union. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door on Friday for theatre and hors d'oeuvres, and \$23 Saturday for theatre, buffet and cash bar. Call 2-2642 or visit 424 Saddlemire Student Services Building to purchase tickets. Sponsored by the Center for Multicultural and Academic Initiatives.

Through March 2

Art Exhibition, Annual Undergraduate Art and Design Exhibition, Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman galleries, Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and 1-4 p.m. Sundays.

Through March 4

Planetarium Show, "Skywatchers of Africa." Showings are at 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, at 7:30 p.m. Sundays and at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 5. \$1 donation suggested.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

American culture studies. Instructor. Call Don McQuarie, 2-8886. Deadline: March 11.

Firelands/Applied Sciences. Call the dean's office, 2-0623. Deadline: March 11.

Visual Communications and Technology. Instructor (three positions). Call Larry Hatch, 2-7574.

Contact the Office of Human Resources at 419-372-8421 for information regarding classified and administrative positions. Position vacancy announcements may be viewed by visiting the HR Web site at www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr.

Employees wishing to apply for these positions must sign a "Request for Transfer" form and attach an updated resume or data sheet. This information must be turned in to Human Resources by the job deadline.

CLASSIFIED

View job descriptions at:

www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/BGSU_only/

The deadline for employees to apply is 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 28.

Groundskeeper 2 (C-007-VI)—Other Fields and Facilities. Pay grade 5. Twelve-month, full-time position.

The following position is advertised on and off campus:

Clerical Specialist (C-006-VI)—University Bookstore. Pay grade 5. Twelve-month, part-time position. Deadline: 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25.

ADMINISTRATIVE

View job descriptions at: www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/

Assistant Athletic Director for Financial Affairs (R-009)—Intercollegiate Athletics. Administrative grade 16. Review of applications will begin Feb. 14 and continue until the position is filled.

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Communications Manager (R-012)—Marketing and Communications. Administrative grade 16. Deadline: Feb. 18.

Coordinator of Conference Programs (R-011)—Student Affairs. Administrative grade 13. Deadline: Feb. 18.

Executive Assistant to the Dean (R-010)—College of Arts and Sciences. Administrative grade 14. Deadline: Feb. 18.

Psychologist (V-147)—Counseling Center liaison to the College of Arts and Sciences. Administrative grade 14 (unlicensed) or 17 (licensed). Review of applications will begin Feb. 18 and continue until the position is filled.

Psychologist (V-147)—Counseling Center liaison to the Office of Residence Life. Counseling Center Outreach Coordinator. Administrative grade 14 (unlicensed) or 17 (licensed). Review of applications will begin Feb. 18 and continue until the position is filled.

Assistant Director, Student Union (R-007)—University Dining Services. Administrative grade 16. Review of applications will begin Feb. 21 and continue until the position is filled.

Technology Support Specialist (V-041)—Information Technology Services. Administrative grade 13. Deadline: March 4.

Manager, University Dining Services (V-119)—Student Affairs (re-advertised). Review of applications began Nov. 15 and will continue until the position is filled.

Coordinator for Greek Affairs (V-145)—Student Affairs (re-advertised). Administrative grade 12. Review of applications began Jan. 31 and will continue until the position is filled.

Residence Hall Director (V-013)—Residence Life. Administrative grade 13. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

OBITUARY

Charles O'Brien, 54, died Feb. 4 in Bowling Green. He was the head diving coach and assistant aquatic director at the University from 1971-91.